

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 050299

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 PRS-01 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAF:BBELL:STT

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

S/S: JPMOFFAT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL CARDIFF IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 050299

TOSEC 59

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT ON ECUADORIAN REACTION

TO YOUR SPEECH

1. ON HEELS OF ECUADORIAN REACTION TO YOUR HOUSTON SPEECH
WE INSPIRED A STORY BY UPI QUOTING STATE DEPARTMENT
OFFICIALS THAT THE SPEECH WAS NOT ACCUSATORY AND WAS
INTENDED TO BE CONCILIATORY AND HELPFUL.

2. UPI WHICH IS THE MAJOR WIRE SERVICE IN LATIN AMERICA
CARRIED THE STORY AS IF IT WERE A REPLY TO A QUERY FROM
THE WIRE SERVICE TO US. THE STORY RECEIVED PROMINENT
PLAY TODAY IN VENEZUELA, MEXICO AND ECUADOR. UPI CARRIED
THE FULL TEXT OF OUR STATEMENT WHICH FOLLOWS:

3. "THE SPEECH WAS INTENDED TO UNDERLINE OUR CONTINUING
STRONG INTEREST IN LATIN AMERICA AND TO EXPRESS OUR
APPROACH TO INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE
SECRETARY'S VISIT. THE PURPOSE WAS TO BE CONCILIATORY
AND HELPFUL. THE SPEECH WAS A CALL TO ELEVATED, RESPONSI-
BLE DIALOGUE ON HEMISPHERIC ISSUES. IT ATTEMPTED TO POINT
OUT WHAT BOTH THE U.S. AND LATIN AMERICA NEED TO DO TO
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OVERCOME OBSTACLES TO CLOSER COOPERATION. THE SECRETARY

DID NOT POINT AN ACCUSATORY FINGER AT ANYONE.

4. "AS ECUADOR IS AWARE, WE OPPOSE RESTRICTIONS IN THE
TRADE ACT, SUCH AS THE OPEC INELIGIBILITY PROVISION, AND
THE SECRETARY USED THE SPEECH PUBLICLY TO EXPRESS THE
ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPORT FOR ITS MODIFICATIONS." INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE050299
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BBELL:STT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750079-0160
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750375/aaaacpwd.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT ON ECUADORIAN REACTION TO YOUR SPEECH
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: CARDIFF
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006